



Changing Lives...One Step At A Time!

Mark Maly was unemployed and getting by with part time work. He didn't know that looking for work is a full-time job. He was searching for jobs through the Internet, but did not have a set time to do so each day. Thus, there would be days when he would put it off because of other priorities.

While trying to find Apple One, he discovered the Career Transition Center (CTC). There, he realized that he could develop the necessary skills and find better ways to get into the Administrative Assistant Field.

By regularly coming to CTC, he now has a set time to do job searching so he can work part-time and be more organized. "I feel more on task during the week. I don't have other things bothering me and there's no more scatter-ness at all," he said. From the Job Search Workshop Series, he learned that job searching is a job on its own. He previously used five job search websites and now uses just three: Indeed.com, CalJobs.org, and LongBeachVOS.org. He learned that VOS gives first priority announcements to people who are registered with the Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network.



Mr. Maly said that he enjoys the classroom setting in the workshops. "There are about twenty people in a class. Although it's an easy flowing environment, you have to work or else you'll have to backtrack," he said. Mr. Maly has a certificate in Microsoft Office 2002, but because technology has progressed, he realized that he needed to learn the updated version to appeal to more employers. He recently finished a Microsoft Excel class offered at CTC in partnership with Cal State Long Beach, and he thanks Judith Stevens, a Program Specialist who helped him sign up for the class. Because of CTC's help, he feels grateful for the opportunity of taking a class at CSULB. He will be attending more Microsoft Office workshops in the near future. He also points out that these services have made him feel more productive.

He said that Program Specialist Alejandra Huerta supports him in his journey towards his employment goal. In their first brief interview, she listened to what he wanted out of the Network's services and gave him a plan to obtain his dream job of becoming an Administrative Assistant. "If I need help, there is always guidance, given that I can call Alejandra or sign up to speak to a Program Specialist," he said.

Now, Mr. Maly feels that his life is back on track. He is expecting callbacks from many interviews and believes that he will reach his employment goal in the near future. "I am pretty confident that I'm going to land a job by September, if not, sooner. I have more leads and call backs, basically because of the support I've received here," he said.

Mr. Maly is already recommending Pacific Gateway to others. "I find myself being a fan of the Centers and telling people about them," he said. He advises people who are thinking of using this to move forward and take the plunge.

By: Mory Men
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